UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/547
8 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 86 (b)

SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Emergency assistance to the Sudan and Operation Lifeline Sudan

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report has been prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 44/12 of 24 October 1989, in which the Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed the need for the international community to continue to respond fully and effectively to requests for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction requirements during the forthcoming phase of Operation Lifeline Sudan. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize support and to co-ordinate the efforts of the international community, to intensify rehabilitation activities and to monitor and keep those activities under constant review; and to report to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

2. The present report also responds to resolution 1990/67 adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 26 July 1990 at Geneva, following an oral statement on progress made in the second phase of Operation Lifeline Sudan by the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Emergency and Relief Operations in the Sudan.

II. CURRENT SITUATION IN THE SUDAN

3. Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) constitutes an important precedent in the realm of complex relief operations to the extent that the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan Peoples Liberation Movement (SPLM) have agreed on means to promote a common relief effort for civilians in need of humanitarian assistance on both sides of the conflict. The performance of OLS should be assessed in the light of conditions in the Sudan, which remain precarious. The renewed armed conflict intensified in October 1989 following six months of cease fire. As a result, further displacement of civilian population has occurred. Drought, which persists in some parts of the country, seriously affected crops and livestock in 1989/90 and continues to do so. In much of the area affected by the conflict, late rainfall delayed the planting of main crops and, in parts of Northern Bahr El-Ghazal, Upper Nile and Junglei provinces, late and sporadic rains have led to adverse crop development. With no family food reserves to fall back on and little, if any, relief food assistance since last year, the situation in some of these areas has deteriorated rapidly. Unless assistance can be provided immediately there are strong possibilities of large-scale migration and starvation in the months ahead. In addition, returnees to the south from Khartoum and camps in the transitional zone have added to the strain already placed on food supplies. As a result of increasing food shortages, significant numbers of people have begun migrating towards Ethiopia, for the first time on this scale since the famine of 1988.

4. In order to contain the situation, efforts have been made under the OLS umbrella to accelerate the movement to the south of relief food, seeds and fishing equipment, and to improve cattle vaccination, child and pregnant women immunization programmes, and basic health care. Although the primary emphasis of the programme is to enhance self-help and to discourage migration, temporary assistance will be provided to those who have already started to move until they can safely return to their houses.

5. Unfortunately, as at September 1990, adequate donor funding for the non-food sector has still not been forthcoming and even ongoing health and medical programmes are under threat of being reduced or stopped altogether without immediate additional and substantial donor response.

6. In addition to those in need in the rural areas, many thousands of displaced families have remained in the overcrowded southern garrison towns and the transitional zone of Southern Darfur and Southern Kordofan. With commercial food supplies either not available or unaffordable by the displaced and poorer residents alike, many families remain almost totally dependent on continued relief food. Of the 1.8 million displaced persons in Khartoum, many continue to live in appalling conditions and have little or no access to adequate shelter, clean water or health services.

7. The crisis affecting the displaced is compounded by a deteriorating economic climate nation-wide, a national food shortage and the cost of the renewed conflict. The prospect of continued fighting and serious economic stress together with the anticipated poor 1990 harvest will certainly result in substantial relief and rehabilitation requirements through 1991.

III. OPERATION LIFELINE SUDAN

A. Khartoum meeting and background document

8. Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 44/12, work continued at Khartoum on the preparation of a joint Sudan/United Nations background appeal document and a plan of action for OLS 1990 activities. This planning process, which initially involved government ministries, donors, non-governmental organizations, the OLS office at Nairobi and other concerned United Nations agencies, attempted to define an OLS 1990 strategy, identify the target population and determine relief food and non-food components, based on assessments of needs.

9. It had been hoped that the background appeal document could be presented to the international donor community before the end of 1989. However, a variety of complex problems led to delays in finalizing the appeal.

10. The situation was exacerbated by the renewal of hostilities in October 1989 and the subsequent suspension of all relief flights until early April 1990. It was only in late March, following the visit to the Sudan of the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, who met with the Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation, General Omer Hassan Al-Bashir, that it was possible to present a plan for the second phase of OLS to the donor community.

11. The plan was presented at a donor consultative meeting convened jointly by the Government of Sudan and the United Nations, held at Khartoum on 26 March 1990. The meeting was attended by senior government officials, donor ambassadors, non-governmental organizations and representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), United Nations agencies and government ministries involved in OLS activities. The meeting focused on the reaffirmation of the principles

governing OLS activities and on launching the appeal for humanitarian assistance for the 4.4 to 4.5 million people estimated to require emergency relief and rehabilitation assistance during 1990.

12. The appeal document estimated that the total cost of OLS II, including non-food activities, would be about $US 121 million, of which food and logistics accounted for approximately half. It was again noted that since all the relief food was either available in the Sudan or had already been pledged, priority would be given to delivering food and urgent non-food supplies to areas that would be inaccessible during the rainy season.

13. Immediately following the Khartoum meeting, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Emergency and Relief Operations in the Sudan, who had been given the mandate to negotiate with SPLM on relief matters, met with representatives of SPLM and the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Association (SRRA). Although initial disagreements arose over the allocations of relief items to SPLM-held areas, it was agreed that consultative mechanisms would be established to review areas of dispute and that, in the interim, relief operations could proceed on the basis of provisional allocations, using the air, road, river and rail "corridors of tranquillity" that had existed in 1989.

14. During the preparatory period leading up to the March meeting, OLS and other relief activities had continued in the Sudan using supplies and funding left over from 1989, as well as some new donations. Donors also responded generously to earlier appeals for relief food for 1990. Thus, despite the six-month delay in presenting the appeal for full-scale OLS activities for 1990, by the end of March 1990 all of the 104,000 metric tons (MT) of relief food estimated to be required for OLS II had been secured. Of this total 12,000 MT has been held in reserve as unallocated stocks, until assessment missions determine where they are most needed.

B. Target populations

15. Based on assessments of prevailing conditions in September 1989 and government estimates of population, it was determined that OLS relief and emergency rehabilitation programmes for 1990 would cover the conflict zone, i.e. Bahr El-Ghazal, Equatoria and the Upper Nile provinces; the transitional zone, that is, Southern Darfur and Kordofan provinces, as well as most parts of the Central Region; and, for the first time under OLS, the displaced persons living in planned and unplanned areas in Khartoum. Between 4.4 and 4.5 million people in these areas were estimated to be in need of some relief assistance during 1990, although it was determined that not all of these would require relief food aid.

16. In the light of the late start of full-scale OLS 1990 activities, it was evident that much of the information used to determine OLS target groups and inputs would need to be updated, as a result of population movements and other changes. Since April 1990, over 30 field assessments under the overall co-ordination of the United Nations have been conducted both in government areas and those held by SPLM.

17. In the transitional zone, it was clear from the surveys that many families, although still in great need of continued assistance, had moved out of the "crisis" phase into one of "recovery and rehabilitation".

18. In the garrison towns, where siege-like conditions exist, acute food shortages are still occurring, affecting both the displaced and the poorer townsfolk alike. Assessments have revealed a continuing urgent need for emergency relief food and materials in many of these towns. Intensified conflict during the past eight months has led to further large-scale displacement of people and disruption of normal agricultural activities. In January 1990, around 70,000 people were reported to have fled from the garrison town of Yei, from nearby Kaya and Kajo-Kaji, with large numbers believed to have crossed the borders into Uganda and Zaire. Juba, the largest town in southern Sudan, with an estimated civilian population of 250,000, including large numbers of displaced, has continued to be cut off by road for most of the year as a result of conflict and is thus almost totally dependent on airlifted grain and other supplies.

19. In SPLM-held areas, the assessments have highlighted the very fragile conditions of the target population and the pressing need for food and non-food emergency supplies. In some parts, despite the ongoing efforts of OLS and other relief activities, there are widespread food shortages; inadequate supplies of seeds for planting crops; poor health facilities, particularly lack of immunization of the most vulnerable groups; inadequate and unsafe water supplies; and virtually no sanitation services, all of which contribute to a very high infant mortality rate.

20. Security constraints and logistical problems, such as poor roads, some of which become impassable with the onset of rains, continue to affect the ability of relief efforts to reach those in need. In the north, severe shortages of fuel and spare parts for trucks have also led to delays in relief deliveries. None the less, remarkable performance was maintained by relief officers from the Government of the Sudan, ICRC, non-governmental organizations, SRRA and the United Nations.

21. As regards the displaced in Khartoum, little assistance has been possible to date. Although it has been evident that a priority of the Government of the Sudan is to relocate as many as possible of the displaced who are willing to leave the transitional zone and particularly Khartoum, little donor support for relocation has been forthcoming. This is due in part to doubts among donors about the viability of major relocation projects.

C. Relief food assistance

22. A generous donor response to food aid appeals resulted in the pledging of 104,000 MT of relief food for 1990 (including the 12,000 MT unallocated reserve). By 6 September 1990, despite logistical problems, 43,163 MT of relief food had been delivered to target locations, of which 32,486 MT went to government areas and 10,677 MT to areas under SPLM control. In addition to these deliveries a further 22,002 MT of relief food had also been pre-positioned in OLS target areas by the end of 1989, bringing the total delivered or in stock by 6 September 1990 to 65,165 MT. Table 1 below provides regional details of these stocks and deliveries.

Table 1. Summary of food assistance deliveries as at 6 September 1990

Region	Estimated needs, September 1989 (in metric tons)	Stocks and deliveries	Percentage of total estimated needs
Equatoria	33 824	28 020	82.84
Bahr El-Ghazal	17 389	2 302	13.44
Upper Nile	14 386	8 042	55.90
Kordofan	13 563	19 302	142.31
Darfur	1 456	2 833	194.57
Central	3 675	1 035	28.16
Khartoum	4 189	2 566	61.28
Blue Nile	3 675	1 065	28.98
Total	92 157	65 165	70.71
Government areas	73 879	53 656	73.62
SPLM areas	19 278	11 509	59.70
Total	92 157	65 165	70.71
Unallocated reserve	12 000		
Total food available	104 157		

23. Donor support for transport of relief food has also been good; the World Food Programme (WFP) March appeal for $US 11.8 million has largely been met. It should be noted, however, that owing to the late start of OLS 1990 operations there is a need for more airlifts into areas that were originally planned to be serviced by road. This will increase the cost of logistics operations.

24. While some of the OLS relief food continues to be used for free distribution, more emphasis has been placed on food for work programmes in order to prevent a growing dependency on free food aid. These work programmes include environmental health improvements, sanitation services and ditch clearing to prevent flooding during the rains.

25. As in 1989, some relief food has also been channelled through co-operatives in Juba and WFP has once more supplied 500 MT of relief food for resale under a "fair price" system, lowering the retail price of sorghum significantly.

1. Road transport

26. From September 1989 onwards, as negotiations proceeded for the continuation of full-scale OLS operations into 1990, deliveries of relief food and some non-food items continued by road in both the north and the south. In the north, relief convoys from Khartoum, Kosti and other points carried supplies to Southern Kordofan, Southern Darfur and parts of the Central Region. In the south, relief operations from Nairobi and Uganda continued and were able to deliver some 2,844 MT of relief food and other supplies by the end of March 1990.

27. Following the March donor consultative meeting at Khartoum and the restarting of full-scale OLS operations, areas reached in the south by road have included Wau, Raja, Yambio, Abyei, Tambura, Kapoeta, Torit, Mongalla, Bor, Kongor, Pibor and Pochola. Since the onset of the rains, some of these locations are no longer accessible by road.

28. Owing to the large quantities of fuel that are needed for trucks, serious fuel shortages have occurred, particularly in the north, resulting in delayed deliveries of relief items to some locations. To alleviate the situation, WFP, since April 1990, has made available from its own fuel stocks sufficient fuel for non-governmental organization transport and for trucks operated by the Government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC). Even so, fuel shortages have continued to affect road transport delivery.

29. In the south, in both government areas and those under SPLM control, serious logistic problems have been experienced through poor road conditions, which have worsened with the onset of the rains. Truck drivers have continued to be endangered by bandit attacks on relief convoys and by mines left along the roads in the conflict areas.

2. Air transport

30. It was hoped that major reductions could be made in the 1990 logistics budget by moving the bulk of the supplies by road. However, as a result of the late start of OLS 1990 operations and continued inaccessibility of some areas by road, significant use of heavy aircraft to transport relief food has been required. Total deliveries by air to the south amount to almost 14,500 MT of cereals, pulses and other basic foodstuffs. Unlike 1989, however, airlifting has not been carried out on a continuous basis.

31. Non-governmental organizations have continued to operate their own airlifts out of Kenya. The airlift of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) played a vital role in the relief of Juba.

32. ICRC has airlifted seeds, tools, food and other relief items into both government and SPLM-held areas and the Government has also airlifted food supplies, mostly into Juba. To supplement these efforts, WFP, from May onwards, organized six airlifts into Juba: four from Entebbe, each carrying 500 MT of cereals, and two smaller ones out of Khartoum. Further WFP airlifts are planned for later in 1990, if additional donor funding is forthcoming.

33. A vital component of OLS activities has been regular light aircraft flights into the conflict areas to enable relief personnel and United Nations monitors to carry out their work and to transport urgently needed vaccines and other health-related materials for humans and livestock. The suspension of relief flights into the south, from early November 1989 until April 1990, seriously affected the ability of relief workers to carry out their tasks and was a major setback to essential child and cattle vaccination programmes.

34. Since the resumption of relief flights, ICRC and United Nations aircraft have been able to travel regularly into most areas of the south, carrying relief personnel, seeds and health-related materials into places such as Aweil, Wau, Malakal, Juba, Raja, Abyei, Kongor, Yirol, Akon, Torit, Kapoeta, Nasir, Pibor, Pochola, Ayod and Waat. From early April 1990 to the end of July, United Nations/OLS light aircraft carried 2,600 passengers and 264 MT of cargo. With additional donor funding, it is hoped that these essential relief aircraft will be able to continue operations as long as emergency conditions persist.

3. River transport

35. Following two largely successful OLS relief barge convoys down the Nile in 1989, plans have been prepared for two further convoys for OLS 1990 from Kosti to Malakal, dropping off relief supplies en route to civilians on both sides of the conflict. Sufficient barges were located and assembled at Kosti, ready for loading during July, but to date no agreement has been reached for the barges to depart. In other parts of the south, small quantities of seeds and food have been ferried by barge from Bor to Adok by ICRC.

4. Rail transport

36. Negotiations continued for the departure of the fifth OLS relief train convoy from El-Muglad to Aweil. Of the 1,500 MT of European Economic Community (EEC) relief food that had been loaded on the train in September 1989, only some 120 MT has been found to be spoiled. Arrangements have been made to replace part of this and it was hoped that the train convoy would carry 1,348 MT of food, approximately 115 MT of seeds and tools, and fuel and medicines to areas held by both the Government and SPLM. Four other relief train convoys were planned for the remainder of 1990. Unfortunately, at the time of writing the present report, no relief trains have yet been able to depart from El-Muglad, owing to security constraints.

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37. Through OLS activities focused in 1989 on delivery of food aid to areas of serious food shortage in the south, non-food assistance played a most important role in providing vital child immunization, cattle vaccines, tools, seeds and other essential supplies.

D. Non-food assistance

38. In the light of the request to the Secretary-General in General Assembly resolution 44/12 to intensify rehabilitation activities, a wide variety of non-food activities were incorporated into the OLS 1990 background appeal document. These activities sought essentially to meet the basic health, water and sanitation needs of both the displaced and affected persons living within the conflict area, in camps, or in towns in the transitional zone and at Khartoum.

39. Emphasis was also placed on delivery of seeds, tools and income-generating equipment, such as fishing equipment, to enable people to begin the process of returning to self-sufficiency. In addition, the appeal also provided for acceleration of child immunization programmes, health care services, drilling of wells and bore holes to provide adequate safe supplies of clean water, and basic education for the conflict-affected children.

40. The suspension of relief flights into the south and lack of funds from the donor community have limited the delivery of urgently needed primary health care goods, human and cattle vaccination programmes, and water supply improvements.

41. Much of the UNICEF appeal for $US 31 million intended for non-food activities remains unfunded. Thus, many thousands of young children and women of child-bearing age remain unvaccinated against common killer diseases.

42. In the absence of comprehensive vaccination programmes in some areas cattle diseases are again beginning to spread through the south and only around a third of the estimated seed requirements for 1990 has been delivered. For many thousands of families, living in makeshift camps or in overcrowded towns, this means another full year of being largely dependent on continued relief aid. Without immediate and substantial donor support the urgently needed expansion of child immunization programmes will not be possible.

43. In addition to the disappointing donor response to non-food assistance, other factors, such as late and sporadic rains, insects, pests, rat infestation and bird damage to crops, have also seriously affected agricultural activities. In the light of all these factors and the many combined unmet needs, it has become increasingly evident that at least another full year of large-scale relief assistance to the south will be required.

E. Administrative arrangements

44. During the latter part of 1989 and through 1990, United Nation responsibility for all OLS matters has been vested in the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Emergency and Relief Operations at Khartoum, with effective co-ordination of the OLS southern sector programmes being arranged through the OLS Co-ordinator based in the Nairobi OLS office, which is staffed by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WFP.

45. In addition, in order to try to achieve uninterrupted delivery of OLS relief supplies into the conflict areas, several new co-ordination and problem-solving committees were established in March 1990, involving the Government, the United Nations, donors and SPLM/SRRA.

46. Owing to disagreement between the Government and SPLM over allocations of OLS relief supplies to SPLM-held areas, a joint review and allocations committee with a mandate to allocate additional relief supplies from a reserve food aid stock of 12,000 MT was formed. It was agreed that this joint committee, which would meet at Nairobi, would involve senior representatives of the Government of the Sudan, the United Nations and SPLM, and that allocations from the reserve stock would be based on population and needs surveys carried out by the United Nations. The first meeting of the committee was scheduled to take place in September 1990.

47. Three other committees were also established at Khartoum. The first, comprising the Acting Commissioner of RRC, the chairman of the Food Donor Group, representatives of military intelligence, security, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Secretary-General's Special Representative, reviews and seeks solutions to major OLS issues. The second, comprising senior officials and technical-level staff from RRC and the Ministries of Finance, Social Welfare, Security and Customs, deals with all OLS administrative matters. The third, the operations policy group, intended to resolve OLS policy issues at ministerial level, meets as required.

48. The Government agreed to make available to OLS a special exchange rate, equivalent to 12.2 Sudanese pounds to one United States dollar. The Government also agreed to exempt all relief goods brought into the Sudan for OLS from customs duties, to exempt relief aircraft working under the OLS umbrella from airport charges and to ensure that non-governmental organizations were able to continue their activities in the field.

49. Despite the Government's commitment to these agreements, bureaucratic delays in working out the financial arrangements offered for OLS persisted through June 1990. In addition, non-governmental organizations continued to face serious problems in clearing OLS relief supplies from both the port and the airport. Many of the operational difficulties have, however, now been resolved. Non-governmental organizations have, in recent weeks, been able to draw funds for OLS activities at the most favourable legal exchange rate; government efforts to ensure radio support in the field for non-governmental organizations and government relief workers have largely been successful; and solutions to the serious delays experienced in obtaining customs clearances for relief items and securing travel permits are currently being pursued.

50. In an effort to prevent overlapping of responsibilities, the roles of each of the partners in OLS were also spelt out prior to the restarting of large-scale activities in April. It was agreed that the Government, through its Ministry of Relief and Displaced Persons Affairs, would have co-ordination responsibility for all aspects of food and non-food inputs designated in the background appeal document.

51. As in 1989, local relief committees, which include representatives of local civil authorities and non-governmental organizations, under the chairmanship of RRC, were made responsible for receiving and distributing relief and rehabilitation inputs.

52. United Nations agencies were requested to assist RRC and SRRA, according to their respective mandates; WFP has thus continued to support RRC with the monitoring of all food and most of the non-food transport and storage. Similar arrangements were made with SRRA in SPLA-held areas. UNICEF has again assisted in the co-ordination and monitoring of the delivery of non-food services and supplies with technical assistance provided by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) when appropriate. In addition, the United Nations has provided an operational framework for all OLS relief personnel, institutions and non-governmental organizations. To this effect, letters of association have been signed between non-governmental organizations wishing to work under the OLS umbrella and the United Nations, confirming agreement to work within the OLS principles and modalities.

53. The Secretary-General's Special Representative has continued his direct contacts with SPLM/SRRA for the purpose of facilitating relief operations.

54. As planned in the background appeal document, SPLM, through its relief organization, SRRA, has facilitated the delivery of all food and non-food inputs in areas under its control. Instructions have also been issued by SPLM, directing all personnel under its control to provide full support to all OLS personnel involved in relief activities at field levels.

55. It was also agreed early in the year that while ICRC operations would remain separate from OLS in the light of the Committee's special mandate, close consultation and information-sharing would continue.

F. Funding

56. As noted above, it was estimated in the background appeal document that 104,000 MT of relief food (including the 12,000 MT unallocated reserve) would be required in order to meet minimum basic needs in 1990 and that the total cost of the operation would be about $US 121 million.

57. Although food aid pledges and receipts and funding for logistics have been both prompt and generous (by the end of March, around $US 34 million, mostly relief food aid, was secured), this has not been the case in the non-food sector (see tables 2-4). Of the $US 31 million appeal by UNICEF for basic health, water,

sanitation and education services for the displaced and affected, only $US 3.5 million had been pledged by mid-August.

58. It has become evident that some of the reluctance of donors to fund non-food activities has stemmed from a combination of the problems experienced by the relief operations during the past eight months, varying from the suspension of relief flights to bureaucratic problems and the resurgence of fighting.

59. While the reluctance of donors can be understood, unfortunately it has to be stated that the shortage of funds for OLS 1990 non-food activities will only lead to further suffering among those least able to help themselves: the displaced women and children.

Table 2. Summary of donor non-food pledges as at 6 September 1990 a/

Donor	United States dollars	Sudanese pounds
Australia	676 351	
Canada	666 667	
Denmark	551 000	
European Community	6 861 740	4 427 500.00
Finland	3 228 995	
France	170 000	
Germany	4 678 505	6 200 000.00
Italy	1 000 000	4 712 232.43
Japan	1 803 759	
Luxembourg	78 740	
Netherlands	7 832 781	2 900 000.00
Sweden	3 362 500	
Switzerland	60 500	
United Kingdom	2 634 000	
United States of America	10 480 844	45 037 538.00
Total	44 086 382	63 277 270.43

a/ Table 2 shows pledges to Operation Lifeline Sudan 1990 for non-food aid, including logistic costs and air transport, for the period 31 October 1989 to 31 August 1990.

Table 3. Summary of donor food pledges as at 21 August 1990 a/

Donor	Quantity in MT	Value in United States dollars
Canada	6 925	1 552 625
European Community	6 250	843 750
Italy	2 000	270 000
Sudan	2 000	270 000
United States of America	57 538	19 640 000
WFP	10 629	2 123 630
WFP/Austria	4 000	540 000
Total	89 342	25 240 005

a/ Table 3 shows pledges to Operation Lifeline Sudan 1990 for food aid for the period 31 October 1989 to 21 August 1990.

Table 4. Summary of donor non-food and food pledges as at 6 September 1990 a/

Donor	Total in United States dollars	Total in Sudanese pounds
Australia	676 351	
Canada	2 219 292	
Denmark	551 000	
European Community	7 704 490	4 427 000.00
Finland	3 228 995	
France	170 000	
Germany	4 678 505	6 200 000.00
Italy	1 279 000	4 712 232.43
Japan	1 803 759	
Luxembourg	78 740	
Netherlands	7 832 781	2 900 000.00
Sudan	270 000	
Sweden	3 362 500	
Switzerland	60 500	
United Kingdom	2 634 000	
United States of America	30 120 844	45 037 538.00
WFP	2 123 630	
WFP/Austria	540 000	
Total	69 325 387	63 277 270.43

a/ Table 4 shows pledges by donor, food aid and non-food aid combined for the period 31 October 1989 to 21 August 1990.

G. Monitoring and reporting

60. Since the re-starting of large-scale OLS activities in April 1990, monthly situation reports covering the prevailing situation, transport deliveries and monitoring and detailing progress and constraints in both the relief food and non-food sectors have been compiled by the office of the Secretary- General's Special Representative at Khartoum. These reports have included information regarding both government and SPLM-held areas. In addition, the regular WFP report, which has also included OLS information, has continued on a weekly basis.

61. To monitor food deliveries and convoys through the "corridors of tranquillity", 15 United Nations logistics and convoy monitors were recruited. In addition, a further 20 project officers, agricultural monitors and air operations staff have also been recruited by the United Nations for operations mainly in the south. These monitors report to five senior United Nations advisers, who have been posted in key locations. UNICEF has placed technical officers in the field to make assessments of non-food needs and recommend interventions, particularly in health, nutrition and sanitation, bringing the total employed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF and WFP for OLS to 151 persons (see table 5).

Table 5. United Nations personnel assigned to Operation Lifeline Sudan, Phase II, as at 21 August 1990

Agency	Khartoum-based operations	Nairobi/Kampala-based operations	Total
WFP	30	49	79
UNICEF	9	39	48
UNDP	17	1	18
Total	62	89	151

62. Co-operation with respect to monitoring, particularly during the recent assessments of OLS target areas by the Government's RRC and the United Nations, and by SRRA and United Nations staff, has steadily improved during the year and overall has been very satisfactory.

IV. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

A. Rainy season activities

63. During the summer rainy season of 1990, many roads leading to areas where large numbers of displaced have gathered were closed or became extremely difficult to negotiate. Although the all-weather roads from Kenya and Uganda into Equatoria continued to be passable, increased use of air transport for additional airlifting of relief supplies was envisaged during August and September to areas where the situation had become acute and starvation was occurring, if donor funds were made available.

64. It should be possible to deliver most of the remaining relief food by the end of 1990 through these efforts.

65. Since there are strong possibilities of further large-scale migrations from some areas in the south, field monitoring has been increased and more assessment missions are being undertaken in order that assistance can be provided as and when the need occurs.

B. Post rainy season activities

66. It is clear that continued relief and rehabilitation support will be needed through 1991 and possibly beyond.

67. While the major reconstruction programme so vitally needed by the Sudan cannot take place until peace is secured, there is much that can be accomplished in the interim.

68. Income-generating activities, along with expanded agricultural programmes, including fishing development and livestock vaccination, must be introduced during 1990 to help provide families with the means to purchase or provide at least part of their own food. Training in primary health techniques, accelerated immunization programmes, provision of safe water and sanitation services, resumption of basic education and improvement in logistical facilities should also be among the top priorities in months to come.

V. CONCLUSIONS

69. In reviewing the successes and difficulties of OLS, it should be remembered that the agreement reached between the Government of the Sudan and SPLM in 1989 to co-operate together in one mutual large-scale relief operation for civilians in need on both sides of the conflict remains an important and historic precedent amongst complex emergency relief operations. The fact that these agreements, which include the use of "corridors of tranquillity" through which relief goods are permitted to move freely in the conflict zones under the United Nations flag, have been maintained in 1990 despite renewed and increased hostilities is to the credit of both sides and reflects the deep commitment each has made to humanitarian relief efforts.

70. Thus, while OLS remains one of the most complicated and difficult relief operations ever undertaken in partnership with the United Nations, it continues to be an example to other countries engaged in civil strife of how mutual, large-scale humanitarian efforts can transcend both political and military considerations.

71. Without doubt OLS has, since its inception in 1989, saved countless lives. The nutritional status of many thousands has been improved; and some children who previously had no access to even basic primary health care or essential immunization have been protected against illnesses and diseases.

72. Even with these successes, prevailing conditions in the Sudan remain extremely precarious. Increased fighting in some parts of the country has led to further displacement of civilian populations. Adverse weather conditions have affected crop plantings and will undoubtedly lead to poor harvests in many areas affected by conflict. National food grain supplies in the country are very low and prices have been rising steadily since July. As a result many ordinary citizens, as well as the displaced, are no longer able to afford even the most basic food essentials - a situation that could lead to large-scale migration and starvation in the months ahead if effective relief and recovery programmes are not in place. Without improved rainfall and above average grain crops in 1990/91, shortages of up to 1 million metric tons of grain can be anticipated in 1991.

73. In addition to this food crisis, many thousands of displaced families in camps and garrison towns continue to be at risk from sickness and disease. In Khartoum, where around 1.8 million displaced persons have sought shelter, many families continue to live in appalling conditions and have little or no access to clean water or health services.

74. Owing to the poor conditions in which they live, as well as the scarcity of job opportunities and income-generating activities, many of the displaced have indicated their willingness to return to their original homes in the rural south. However, it is evident that until peace is secured, a large-scale programme of this nature will not be viable. Thus, although the United Nations will continue to assist the Government in refining its displaced persons strategies, pragmatic solutions requiring immediate donor funding must be sought to alleviate the extreme suffering of these people.

75. It is evident that substantial emergency relief programmes for the displaced and others affected by conflict will have to be continued, at the very least at present levels, through 1991 and possibly beyond. It is also clear that more emphasis must be placed on rehabilitation activities, particularly those which will assist the displaced to achieve some measure of productivity, and on the provision of basic health care, sanitation, water and education services.

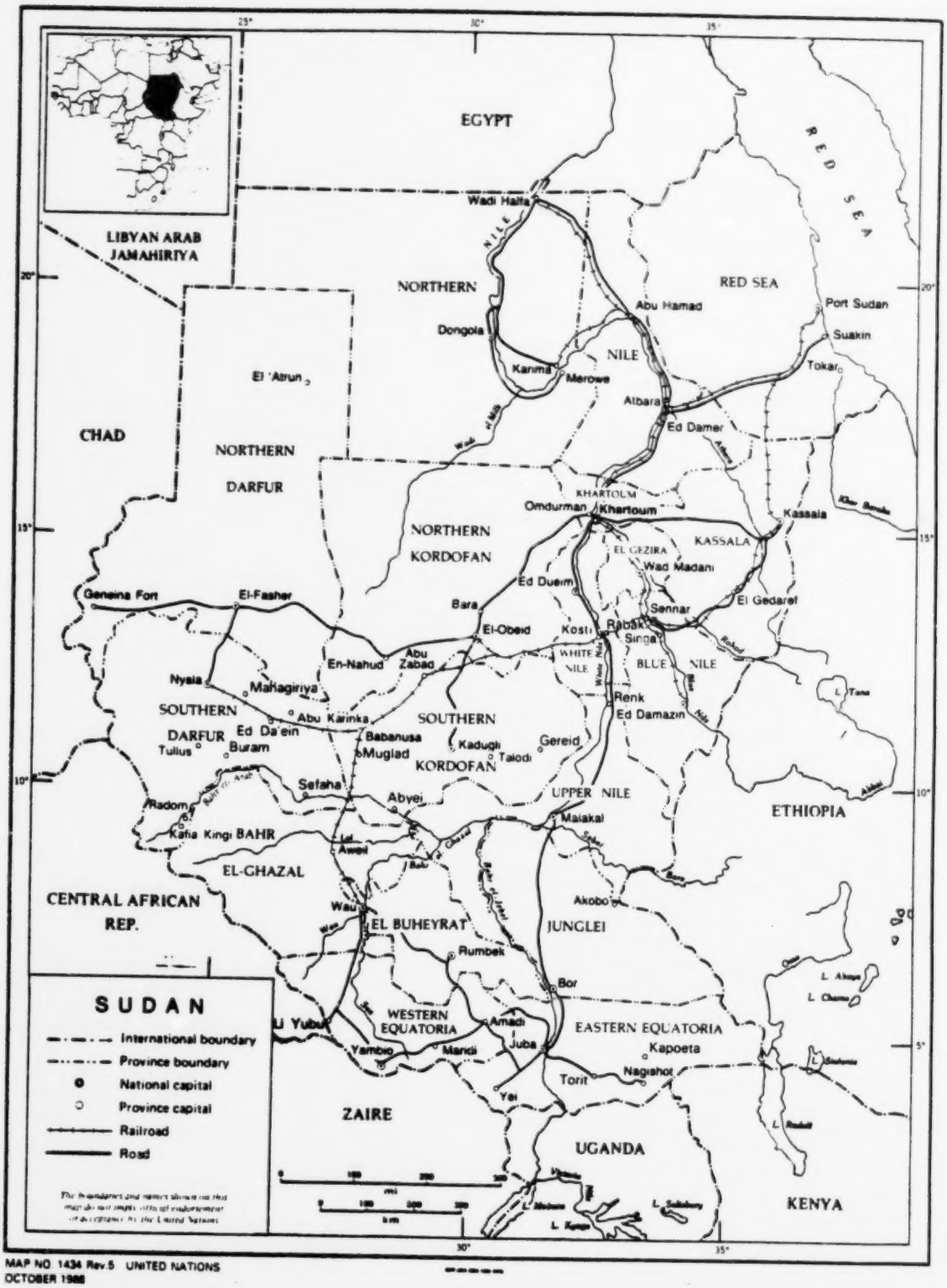
76. In this respect, it must be reiterated that although donors have been generous in response to food and logistic appeals, there has been a poor reaction to appeals for the non-food sector. As a result, some essential health, water and sanitation programmes may have to stop altogether, while urgently needed new programmes cannot begin. In view of the continuing emergency in the Sudan and the increasing evidence of even worse problems in 1991, it is to be hoped that the UNICEF appeal,

launched in May 1990, which covers many of the ongoing and most urgent needs of the displaced in both government and SPLM-held areas, will be strongly supported in the coming months.

77. As regards the longer term, there is an evident need to strengthen the country's capacity to handle recurring disasters. The United Nations system will continue to work with the Government to this end in the hope that a national disaster prevention and preparedness strategy will be formulated and that this strategy, coupled with an improved emergency infrastructure, will greatly reduce the amount of outside emergency relief assistance required, should future disasters strike.

78. In the last analysis, of course, a permanent solution to the problems of the displaced and a full return to a productive and self-sufficient nation will have to await a solution to the civil conflict of the last seven years.

ANNEX



MAP NO 1434 Rev.5 UNITED NATIONS
OCTOBER 1988

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/548
1 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 102 and 126 (c)

FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN TO THE YEAR 2000

PERSONNEL QUESTIONS: OTHER PERSONNEL QUESTIONS

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is the sixth in a series of reports in response to the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly with regard to the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations Secretariat. General Assembly resolutions 44/75 of 8 December 1989 and 44/185 C of 19 December 1989 reaffirmed the 30 per cent target for women in posts subject to geographical distribution by 31 December 1990 that was established in earlier resolutions beginning in 1985. In resolution 44/185, the Secretary-General was requested to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on all aspects of the status of women in the Secretariat, as well as information on, inter alia, the role of the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat and of the Focal Point for Women in the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management, and the setting of new targets for the representation of women in the United Nations.

2. The first three reports on this subject, A/C.5/40/30, A/C.5/41/18 and A/C.5/42/24, dealt with measures adopted to improve the status of women in the Secretariat. The fourth and fifth reports, A/C.5/43/14 and A/C.5/44/17, described developments that took place from October 1987 to October 1988, and September 1988 to October 1989, respectively. The present sixth report describes developments and outlines strategies adopted from November 1989 to September 1990.

3. In 1985, as part of the Action Programme to improve the representation of women in the Secretariat, the Secretary-General established a high-level Steering Committee to advise him on ways and means of achieving this goal. At present, the Steering Committee continues in its advisory role and actively participates in monitoring the implementation of the policy measures resulting from this Action Programme. The Focal Point for Women continues to discharge her duties in her dual roles of Principal Officer in the Office of Human Resources Management concerned with women's issues and Secretary of the Steering Committee.

4. In Article 8 of the Charter of the United Nations, it is stated that women and men should participate in the work of the United Nations under conditions of equality. Currently, the operative target for the representation of women in posts subject to geographical distribution is 30 per cent by the end of 1990. During the forty-fifth session, the General Assembly will have before it Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/3, in which a new target of 35 per cent representation of women in posts subject to geographical distribution by the end of 1995 is recommended. The target recommended by the Council coincides with that recommended by the Secretary-General in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, namely, an increase in the percentage of women in geographic posts of at least 1 per cent each year beyond the currently established target of 30 per cent by the end of 1990. This would bring the percentage to 37 by the end of the medium-term plan period.

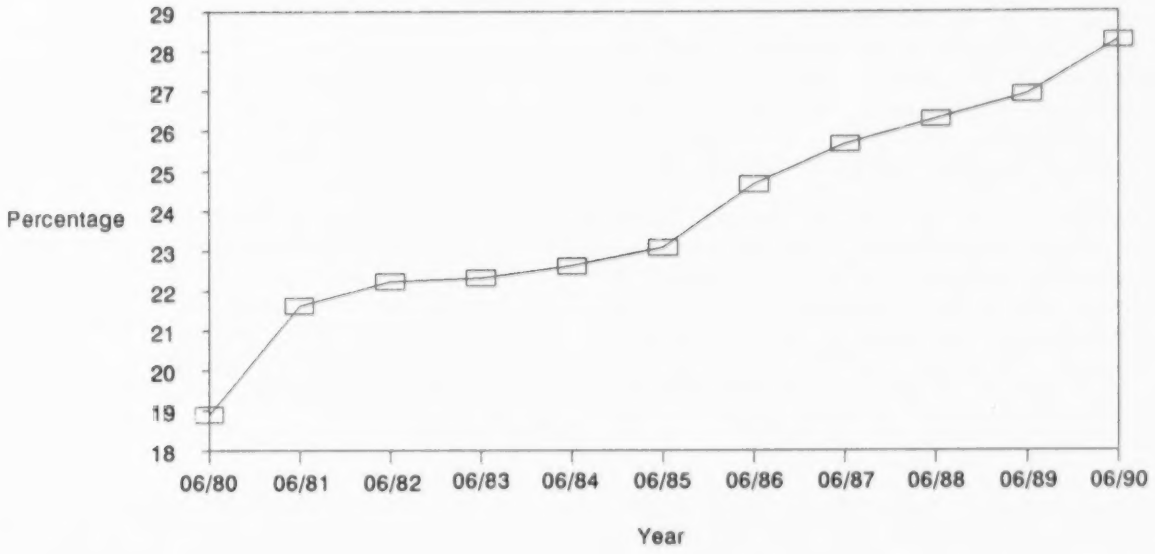
5. In order to ensure that as far as possible, the 30 per cent target would be met, the Secretariat adopted a number of special emergency measures to remain in effect at least until the end of 1990. Most of those measures will be continued to enable the Secretariat to maintain momentum and meet future targets.

II. CURRENT SITUATION

A. Women in posts subject to geographical distribution

6. Since the end of the last session of the General Assembly, the Office of Human Resources Management has continued its efforts to achieve a balanced representation of women and men in the Secretariat, and implemented the special emergency measures. In the period from July 1989 to June 1990, the percentage of women in the United Nations Secretariat rose by 1.5 per cent, the most significant annual increase since 1986. The graph below illustrates the representation of women in posts subject to geographical distribution during the last decade.

Female staff in posts subject to geographical distribution from 1980 to 1990



7. Table 1 gives statistics on women in posts subject to geographical distribution. Most noteworthy is the overall increase in the numbers of women in 1990. On 30 June 1990, the percentage of women in posts subject to geographical distribution stood at 28.3 per cent, compared with 26.9 per cent in June 1989. There has been an increase of 5.2 per cent over the last 5 years and a 9.6 per cent increase over the last 10. The 1990 increase is all the more significant since it follows the recent retrenchment exercise when approximately 500 Professional posts were cut. As at June 1990 there are now 725 women in the Secretariat out of a total of 2,561 staff on posts subject to geographical distribution. Comparable figures for June 1989 are 679 women out of a total of 2,523. Thus there has been a net gain of 46 women over the 12-month period since June 1989.

Table 1

Number and percentage of women in posts subject to geographical distribution

(as at 30 June 1988, 1989 and 1990)

Position/ level	30 June 1988		30 June 1989		30 June 1990	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
USG	2	7.7	2	8.3	2	7.7
ASG	1	5.3	0	0	0	0
D-2	5	5.7	7	8.2	8	10.1
D-1	19	8.6	15	6.4	16	6.8
P-5	59	12.4	64	13.5	73	15.8
P-4	162	23.3	170	24.5	180	26.7
P-3	251	39.0	263	40.3	261	39.0
P-2	137	43.2	141	44.9	175	45.8
P-1	27	73.0	17	58.6	10	62.5
Total	667	26.6	679	26.9	725	28.3

B. Distribution of women by region of origin

8. In terms of region of origin, the proportion of women in posts subject to geographical distribution continues to be uneven. With the exception of North America and the Caribbean, which remained unchanged, the overall number of women from each region in the Secretariat increased. However, the percentage of women from the African, Middle Eastern and Eastern European countries remain well below the 30 per cent target (see table 2).

Table 2

Professional staff in posts subject to geographical distribution, by region and gender

(as at 30 June 1989 and 30 June 1990)

Region	1989			1990		
	Number of staff	Women	Percentage	Number of staff	Women	Percentage
Africa	427	52	12.4	439	64	14.6
Asia and the Pacific	412	133	32.3	408	140	34.3
Eastern Europe	261	20	7.7	261	24	9.2
Western Europe	572	178	31.1	592	196	33.1
Latin America	201	66	32.8	215	70	32.4
Middle East	119	22	18.5	128	24	18.8
North America and the Caribbean	509	202	39.7	499	202	40.5

C. Distribution across departments

9. The 1990 report of the Secretary-General on the composition of the Secretariat (A/45/541) provides detailed statistical data on the distribution of women at each level by office or department, and provides data on staff by nationality. The distribution of women across various organizational units of the United Nations also remains uneven. It is worth noting, however, that the percentage of women at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) increased from 11.8 to 15.1 per cent during the 12-month period covered by that report. At the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the comparable rise is from 12.5 to 14.5 per cent. Table 3 shows the distribution of staff by departments or offices, by grade and gender. It introduces a monitoring element, in that it gives the percentage share held by women in each department or office in descending percentage order. The table shows four groups, the first at 30 per cent and above, the second at 25 per cent and above, the third at 20 to 25 per cent and the fourth below 20 per cent.

Table 3

Sex distribution of staff in the United Nations Secretariat by department or office and by grade: Professional and higher level staff in posts subject to geographical distribution

(as at 30 June 1990)

DEPARTMENT / OFFICE	USG		ASG		D-2		D-1		P-5		P-4		P-3		P-2		P-1		TOTAL		GRAND TOTAL	% OF WOMEN	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M			
CS	0	1	0	0	1	4	4	9	3	5	12	7	28	19	18	7	2	0	68	52	120	56.7%	GROUP
AMOHRM	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	3	5	9	10	14	12	9	8	3	0	0	39	40	79	49.4%	I
EOSG	0	1	0	2	1	7	1	1	1	2	2	3	4	1	3	1	0	0	12	18	30	40.0%	
OPGS	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	1	1	3	2	6	3	1	0	0	10	16	26	38.5%	
AMIAD	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	4	2	5	5	4	4	5	1	0	12	20	32	37.5%	
OALOS	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	4	2	2	1	4	2	2	4	2	0	0	9	16	25	36.0%	
HR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	7	5	4	11	5	5	0	0	16	29	45	35.6%	
DPI	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	10	10	30	20	37	21	28	16	17	1	2	69	127	196	35.2%	
INTORG	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	7	4	3	7	9	0	3	0	0	13	24	37	35.1%	
AM *	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	2	1	4	2	3	0	0	0	0	7	13	20	35.0%	
DDA	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	3	4	3	4	1	2	1	0	0	0	8	16	24	33.3%	
OLA	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	6	4	5	6	8	3	8	4	5	0	0	18	36	54	33.3%	
REGCOM *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	33.3%	
UNOG	0	1	0	1	0	3	2	7	1	15	7	15	12	22	15	15	0	2	37	81	118	31.4%	
CTC	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	5	2	9	3	3	3	1	0	0	10	22	32	31.3%	
SPQRCDT	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	4	3	8	3	6	6	4	1	3	0	0	13	29	42	31.0%	
IESA	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	15	5	32	14	25	25	18	8	24	1	0	53	119	172	30.8%	
ORCI *	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	1	2	4	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	6	14	20	30.0%	
AMOGS	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	8	2	10	6	20	12	18	10	14	0	0	31	73	104	29.8%	GROUP
PSCA	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	9	4	11	5	15	6	8	4	3	0	0	20	50	70	28.6%	II
TCD	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	13	5	20	9	30	12	12	6	4	0	0	32	81	113	28.3%	
UNOV	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	11	2	15	6	23	8	10	10	12	0	0	28	74	102	27.5%	
ESCAP	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	9	1	20	3	36	16	22	11	6	1	2	33	97	130	25.4%	
DIEC *	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	4	2	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	12	16	25.0%	
UNCSTD *	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	3	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	10	13	23.1%	GROUP
UNDRO	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	7	1	3	3	3	2	2	0	0	6	20	26	23.1%	III
UNCED *	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	5	20.0%	
UNEP *	0	1	0	2	0	3	0	3	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	13	16	18.8%	GROUP
UNCTAD	0	1	0	1	0	6	0	20	3	44	6	48	20	44	6	15	1	0	36	179	215	16.7%	IV
SPTASN *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	5	6	16.7%	
WFC *	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	3	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	11	13	15.4%	
UNCHS	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	6	3	11	2	12	2	4	0	0	7	39	46	15.2%	
ECA	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	12	1	25	7	45	7	46	9	11	1	0	25	141	166	15.1%	
ECLAC	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	11	0	24	8	31	9	28	3	18	0	0	20	114	134	14.9%	
ESCWA	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	7	1	17	2	24	5	13	3	2	0	0	11	65	76	14.5%	
ECE	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	9	0	17	3	27	4	20	5	12	0	0	12	87	99	12.1%	
SPA *	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	9	11.1%	
MISSION	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	9	2	4	0	3	0	1	0	0	2	22	24	8.3%	
FS *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.0%	
UNCS *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	3	0.0%	
TOTAL	2	24	0	18	8	71	16	221	73	388	180	493	261	408	175	207	10	6	725	1,836	2,561	28.3%	

* Indicates offices with less than 20 staff members.

D. Career development opportunities for women

10. The special emergency measures and the practice introduced four years ago of combining seniority in the preceeding and current grade when determining eligibility for the promotion of women, has improved career development opportunities for women. During the period July 1989 to 30 June 1990, a significant number of women were promoted. The figures are as follows: those who moved from P-2 to P-3 numbered 9 or 50 per cent of staff promoted at that grade, those who moved from P-3 to P-4 numbered 20 or 32 per cent, those from P-4 to P-5 numbered 13 or 34 per cent, those from P-5 to D-1 numbered 3 or 11 per cent. The percentage share of women who were promoted to the P-4 level exceeds their percentage share of the P-4 population, i.e. 32.0 per cent promoted as against 26.7 per cent share of the P-4 group. Figures at the P-5 level are 34.0 per cent as compared with 15.8 per cent share of staff at the P-5 level. Table 4 gives figures on promotion for the past two years.

Table 4

Promotion of Professional women occupying posts subject to geographical distribution by grade

	July 1988-30 June 1989			July 1989-30 June 1990		
	Number		Percentage	Number		Percentage
P-2 to P-3	11	or	42	9	or	50
P-3 to P-4	9	or	36	20	or	32
P-4 to P-5	11	or	40	13	or	34
P-5 to D-1	1	or	8	3	or	11

11. As can be seen from the above table, with the exception of P-2 to P-3, there has been an increase in numbers over the last two years. Percentages for 1980, a decade ago, were P-2 to P-3, 41 per cent; P-3 to P-4, 25 per cent; P-4 to P-5, 14 per cent; and P-5 to D-1, 9 per cent. In addition, 14 women moved between departments and offices and between different duty stations.

12. In keeping with the United Nations commitment to provide career development for staff, a number of initiatives have been started. Among them is the preparation of the Career Development Handbook for Headquarters General Service staff. The Handbook is designed to assist staff in evaluating and plotting their career paths. A similar handbook is being prepared for Professional staff. A further initiative is the restructuring of the secretarial occupation. In April 1990, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management requested that all departments and offices review their secretarial posts and identify those which, as a result of a change in job content, warranted reclassification to a higher level.

E. Recruitment

13. In the 12-month period ending 30 June 1990, 63 or 31.2 per cent of the 202 staff recruited were women. Comparable figures for the previous 12-month period were 36 out of 134 or 26.9 per cent. Of the 63 women appointed in 1990, 8 entered at the P-4 level, 12 at the P-3 level and 42 at the P-2 level. There was one appointment at the P-1 level. Of the 63 women recruited 24 or 38 per cent were from developing countries. One woman joined the Organization in August 1990 at the D-2 level and another will be promoted as of 1 October 1990, bringing the number of women at the D-2 level to 10, compared to 70 men. There were no appointments of women above the D-2 level in the past year.

14. As in past years, over half of the women appointed to posts subject to geographical distribution in the Secretariat have entered as a result of their success, either in the national competitive examinations or in the internal competitive examinations for promotion from the General Service and related categories to the Professional category. Under the special emergency measures, four women were recruited from among the Junior Professional Officers and Associate Experts in UNDP and UNICEF, and one from technical co-operation project personnel.

15. As at June 1990, women constitute 28.3 per cent of the staff on posts subject to geographical distribution. In order to meet the target set by the General Assembly of 30 per cent by end-1990, about 40 more women are needed. Of these, 27 cases are in the pipeline, that is, they have received, or are about to receive letters of offers of appointment. Should these women join the Secretariat staff by 31 December 1990, women will constitute 29 per cent of the staff on posts subject to geographical distribution. This will leave a short-fall of some 13 women to be recruited by year-end. There is still a need for increased efforts to have more women candidates presented for higher-level posts where the disparity between the numbers of women and men is greatest.

16. As in past years, in order to encourage candidacies of women and provide practical information concerning employment opportunities in the United Nations at the P-3 level and above, full use was made of staff undertaking official missions, either in connection with the national competitive examinations, or on other official business, by arranging for staff to address meetings of national professional women's groups scheduled in collaboration with the national Governments. Such missions took place in Albania, Australia, Bahrain (for nationals of Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia), Brazil, the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The countries in which national competitive examinations are held are always urged to encourage women candidates to sit the examinations.

17. A total of 61 Permanent Missions in New York have responded positively to the invitation to nominate a member of their staff to serve as Focal Points, and, in the 12 months ending 30 June 1990, five briefing meetings were held. Each mission Focal Point received a kit containing information on their country's representation status, that is, the number of women and men from their country on posts subject to geographical distribution, a note on how to find vacancy announcements and how to

apply for vacancies, the qualifications and approximate length and quality of relevant experience required of the posts, summaries of the occupational groups in which there is a higher turn-over of staff and a set of external vacancy announcements current at that time. As a result of the discussions, a clearer understanding of the issues and of the concerns and constraints of the Member States and the Secretariat was obtained. One important strategy shared with mission representantives was that they might find it useful to develop national rosters of qualified women for more ready responses to vacancies as is already done effectively by some Governments. They were also requested to provide the Office of Human Resources Management with lists of professional organizations in their respective countries, so that vacancy announcements could be sent to those organizations directly.

F. Participation in missions

18. The increase and size of recent peace-keeping and peace-making missions has introduced a new dimension for staff in the United Nations and, in particular, for women. About 50 per cent of the staff assigned to the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia were women and they participated in every aspect of that important peace-making operation. As a result of UNTAG, a large number of women, both in the Professional and General Service categories, gained experience and exposure to the many aspects involved in peace-making and electoral supervision, particularly in the political and logistic fields. The legacy of their success in Namibia will help to ensure that future peace-keeping and peace-making operations will include large numbers of women.

19. Similar conclusions are evident from the United Nations Observer Mission for the Verification of Electoral Process in Nicaragua (ONUVEN) and from the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA). UNTAG, ONUVEN and ONUCA had another dimension. They created opportunities for a number of women who remained behind to demonstrate their ability to perform higher-level jobs and to absorb greater responsibilities, thus putting on record their potential for future career assignments.

III. PROGRESS MADE DURING THE FIFTH YEAR OF THE ACTION PROGRAMME

A. Institutional arrangements

1. Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat

20. The Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat was instituted in 1986 as part of the Action Programme to overcome obstacles to women's integration into the substantive work of the Organization. During its first three years, the Steering Committee analysed many of the obstacles and problems facing women and made some 50 recommendations to address the various

problems presented. Some of these have been fully implemented, while others are in varying stages of implementation. Full implementation continues to be an important objective for the Secretariat. An update of the work programme derived from these recommendations is given in the annex to the present document.

21. The composition of the Steering Committee for the period March 1989 to December 1990, was set out in the Secretary-General's Bulletin ST/SGB/216/Add.1 of 27 March 1989. So far, it has held some 36 meetings. The consultative process that developed from these meetings - many of them with individual heads of departments - in the context of the Committee's monitoring role, are expected to result in recommendations to the Secretary-General in the areas of assignment and promotion, recruitment and monitoring, as well as on the restructuring of the secretarial occupation.

2. Focal Point for Women

22. The Focal Point for Women in the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management took up her assignment in April 1989 on a post approved by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a period of two years. She is responsible for all aspects of the action programme for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat and her tasks include developing sources for recruitment of women and providing a Focal Point in the Secretariat for women to discuss issues related to their career development and conditions of work. She is the Secretary to the Steering Committee and also serves as liaison between OHRM and that Committee, to which her office provides secretariat services. The Focal Point is responsible for preparing reports for the General Assembly.

23. The Focal Point serves as the contact between the Secretariat and Focal Points in the permanent missions. As such, she has been part of the Office of Human Resources Management initiative with mission Focal Points in encouraging Member States to propose more women candidates, particularly for higher-level posts.

24. The special emergency measures called for the establishment of a network of Focal Points in every department and office in the Secretariat to work with the Focal Point for Women in the Office of Human Resources Management. Individual meetings to identify future vacancies and plan their staffing by women whenever possible, either by promotion or external recruitment, have taken place during the last year and will continue on a regular basis. A meeting of all the network members took place in July and served as a forum for the airing and exchange of views and concerns.

3. Special emergency measures

25. As part of the efforts to hasten progress towards attaining the 30 per cent target of women in posts subject to geographical distribution by end-1990, and improving their representation at higher and decision-making levels, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/258 B and reaffirmed by resolution

44/185 C, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management, in January 1990, outlined a number of special emergency measures to achieve the twin goals. Among these were: the earmarking of at least 50 per cent of vacancies for women; limiting the submission of candidates to women where qualified women candidates can be identified, urging managers to propose women candidates for recruitment and placement in higher level posts. Measures also called for seeking women candidates from among former Junior Professional Officers, Associate Experts and other project personnel, treating women that are currently working within the United Nations Secretariat on project posts or with contracts limited to service in UNEP and UNHCR as internal candidates, and establishing a network of Focal Points in every department and office to work with the Focal Point for Women in the Office of Human Resources Management, as well as in the permanent missions of Member States where possible. In addition, the practice instituted four years ago with regard to promotion for women, namely, that when computing seniority, the years in the preceding grade, as well as those in the current grades, are taken into account when determining eligibility for promotion, was continued.

B. Implementation status of the 1989-1990 work programme

26. Since the 30 per cent target has yet to be reached, and disparity in the number of men and women in the Secretariat continued during the period covered by the present report, the work programme as described in the report for 1989 (A/C.5/44/17) remained the objective of the Secretariat for the period July 1989 to June 1990. An update on this work programme is provided in the annex.

C. Programme outline for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat for the next five years

27. In its resolution 44/75, the General Assembly requested an outline of the future five-year programme with regard to the improvement in the status of women in the Secretariat. Since the majority of the recommendations made by the Steering Committee are not yet fully implemented, their full implementation remains at the core of the Office of Human Resources Management programme for the coming years. Continuation of the special emergency measures is also planned. The Steering Committee is considering ways of strengthening the special emergency measures to ensure increased numbers of women in the Secretariat, particularly at higher and decision-making levels, as well as enhancing career opportunities for women.

28. The draft medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 proposes that the proportion of women in the Secretariat should be increased by 1 per cent each year after the target of 30 per cent is reached. As outlined in the draft medium-term plan, the Office of Human Resources Management proposes an expanded training programme for staff better to prepare them for the assumption of increased responsibilities. The interests of women staff members will be fully taken into account. The numerical target, the Steering Committee's recommendations and its monitoring role, and the special emergency measures are all needed to remove the disparity between women and men in the Secretariat.

29. The departments and offices shown in table 3 in groups II, III and IV will be closely monitored and will be expected to rise to the group above their present level during the coming biennium. The Office of Human Resources Management plans to continue to work closely with missions to identify women for higher-level posts and will continue to take advantage of recruitment missions and other official travel to address different professional groups in order to obtain candidacies of qualified women. The Office of Human Resources Management will also ensure that the concerns of women are fully integrated in the planned studies on job rotation and mobility.

Annex

A. Status of implementation of the outstanding recommendations contained in the Steering Committee's reports, as approved by the Secretary-General

(a) Introduce and take action on the results of the comprehensive monitoring system

Status: The monitoring of the staffing tables of women and men has been strengthened. The Steering Committee has been meeting separately with heads of departments and offices as part of its monitoring role. Special emergency measures required departments to reserve 50 per cent of all vacant posts for staffing by women. Table 3 on the composition of staff by women and men by departments shows those at or above the 30 per cent target, those within target range, and those below 25 per cent. This table will form part of all future reports and will be generated periodically to monitor progress by departments.

(b) Utilize the vacancy management system to further the career development of women in all categories

Status: The vacancy management system recommended by the Steering Committee and endorsed by the Secretary-General is in place and is currently being reviewed by the Office of Human Resources Management.

(c) Develop a staff rotation policy to ensure the effective use of human resources while eliminating perceived disincentives to mobility, particularly in the area of family life

Status: A study is in progress and will be completed by the end of the biennium.

(d) Complete the development of a data base on skills inventories and career paths for women

Status: The Integrated Information Management System (IMIS) is expected to be operational in 1993. However, in the interim, the Office of Human Resources Management has developed and routinely produces a great deal of statistical data, and approximate figures are already available.

(e) Further improve the job design of posts in the secretarial occupation

Status: The restructuring of the secretarial occupation is under way. The deadline for the first phase, that is, the review by departments and offices of those existing secretarial posts which warrant reclassification to a higher level through improved job design, was the end of July 1990. The entire exercise will be completed before the end of 1990.

(f) Develop occupational training programmes for General Service staff based on career path analysis

Status: In addition to increased training courses in electronic data processing, supervisory and managerial courses for staff in both the Professional and General Service category have been expanded. No special training has been developed based on an analysis of career paths because of lack of resources. However, because of the requirements of their current jobs, a considerable number of General Service staff have participated in both computer training and the supervisory training programme. The external studies programme has also provided assistance to a number of General Service staff to cover fees and related expenses for courses taken outside the Organization.

(g) Integrate the career development system for Professional and General Service staff in both the examination and selection process for advancement to the Professional category

Status: The Career Development Handbook for General Service staff in the United Nations at Headquarters includes information on the G to P examination, the national recruitment examinations and the competitive language examinations for advancement to the Professional category.

(h) Establish a system for part-time jobs and flexible working hours within the context of restructuring and the post reduction process

Status: To date, 10 staff members have taken advantage of the possibility of serving on a part-time basis. Requests for part-time employment are dealt with on an ad hoc basis by departments and offices.

(i) Introduce further measures aimed at avoiding gender discrimination and sexual harassment, both in the context of staff training and in the framework for the administration of justice

Status: Cases are promptly brought to the attention of the administration and addressed individually.

B. Improving the career prospects of women at offices away from Headquarters

(a) Establish focal points at the various duty stations to follow up on issues related to career development

Status: There are no official Focal Points to date at offices away from Headquarters.

(b) Evaluate data on the gender distribution of General Service staff by occupation and determine measures necessary to avoid any differences in career prospects

Status: A review of staff serving in the General Service and related categories is planned during the biennium 1990-1991 by the International Civil Service Commission. An internal roster of General Service and related category staff along occupational lines is planned in the course of the biennium.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/549
27 September 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session

LETTER DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In his statement delivered today, the Prime Minister of Portugal, His Excellency Mr. Anibal Cavaco Silva made a reference to the so-called question of East Timor. As the statement contains unwarranted misrepresentations and distortion of facts concerning East Timor, a clarification on our part is essential. However, rather than exercising our right of reply, we have opted to send the enclosed communication (see annex) so as not to impose on the valuable time of the General Assembly, which has much weightier issues to address.

I should be grateful if you could have the above-mentioned communication circulated as an official document of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Nana S. SUTRESNA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Communication from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations

1. In the statement made on 26 September 1990 by the distinguished Prime Minister of Portugal references were made to the so-called question of East Timor. Although the thrust of the statement was, as always, designed to keep alive a non-issue that has since long lost its relevance, his misrepresentation of facts cannot go unanswered, lest this august Assembly may be led to believe that these are the prevailing realities regarding this question. It is indeed regrettable that the Prime Minister has again resorted to the same distortions as habitually practised by Portuguese spokesmen in various forums over the past 14 years. Such posturing does not add anything to the quality of our annual debate. Worse still, Portugal's unfounded allegations and insinuations do not contribute anything constructive to the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General in finding ways to achieve an internationally acceptable, comprehensive and just solution.

2. In his statement, the Prime Minister of Portugal attempted to draw an analogy between the so-called question of East Timor and the situation in the Gulf region. To say the least, such a comparison is absurd and totally misleading. Iraq's action against Kuwait constitutes invasion, occupation and purported annexation of a sovereign and independent neighbouring State. The question of East Timor, however, concerns a non-self-governing territory in the process of decolonization, a process which, by the way, was utterly mishandled by the erstwhile colonial Power, Portugal. The pertinent facts surrounding this unfortunate question and the regrettable circumstances that caused that process to be disrupted by Portugal's irresponsible abandonment of the territory leaving behind a bloody civil war it practically instigated itself, is well-known to Member States. These facts have been exposed time and again, year after year, by my delegation. And as the annual voting patterns on this question until 1982 in this Assembly have shown, there is now a growing understanding and support by a wide spectrum of Member States belonging to various regions.

3. Thus, far from invading and annexing another independent State, Indonesia's role in East Timor was precisely one of contributing to the process of decolonization, inter alia, by helping to ensure that, in its essence and realization, the democratically expressed will of the overwhelming majority of the East Timorese not to be overwhelmed by the armed terror and unilateral imposition of a ruthless minority, the so-called Fretilin. Incidentally, this minority group was created by Portugal, was aided and abetted by the Portuguese colonial authorities in their terrorist activities and is being kept alive even until today. It is a matter of record, therefore, that the integration of East Timor was an act of self-determination in full accordance with General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV), and in particular, principles VI, VIII and IX of resolution 1541 (XV) and as confirmed by the relevant provision of resolution 2625 (XXV).

4. The distinguished Prime Minister spoke about his country's "moral, historic and constitutional imperative" to defend the cultural and religious identity of the people of East Timor. He should know, as the rest of the world already knows, that in the rich cultural diversity of Indonesia, the East Timorese culture since its integration in the Republic has flowered and grown strong, as it never could happen during the 400 years of colonial domination. Since integration, the religion of the East Timorese, based on the Roman Catholic faith, has equally bloomed with the numbers of its adherents increasing year by year. That is why we have always been baffled by Portuguese allegations that the cultural and religious identity of the East Timorese are now somehow being violated or denigrated. The facts belie such spurious contentions and show a totally different picture. We would therefore like to ask: what does the Portuguese Prime Minister mean by the East Timorese cultural and religious identity? Is it different from that of their kith and kin across an artificial colonial boundary on the western part of the same island who speak the same language or dialects, observe the same customs and traditions, and profess the same religion? Or is it being suggested that the East Timorese cultural identity is synonymous to and rooted in the Portuguese cultural identity and language? If so, are we then to justify and accept the retention of the culture of the erstwhile metropolitan power as an unavoidable residue of past colonial bondage, and as something for which Indonesia can be held accountable if it failed to preserve it?

5. Perhaps the process of self-determination in East Timor was not as perfect as we would have wished. But neither was this the case in Portugal's former colonies elsewhere, which showed the same pattern of inept handling and irresponsible abandonment of the process of decolonization. None the less, guided by our deep and abiding commitment to the principles and purposes of the United Nations and as evidence of goodwill, my delegation remains prepared to co-operate with the Secretary-General and Portugal to achieve a settlement to a question which has long ceased to be an issue. For this, however, more than rhetorical misrepresentations are needed from Portugal. As an earnest of Portugal's sincerity, we would expect a more constructive attitude that would contribute to creating an atmosphere conducive to such a solution.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/550
27 September 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 34

POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, established in pursuance of paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 2054 B (XX) of 15 December 1965, is made up of voluntary contributions from States, organizations and individuals, Governments of countries acting as hosts to refugees from South Africa, and other appropriate bodies, and it is to be used for the following purposes:

(a) Legal assistance to persons persecuted under repressive and discriminatory regulations of South Africa;

(b) Relief of such persons and their dependants;

(c) Education of such persons and their dependants;

(d) Relief of refugees from South Africa;

(e) Relief and assistance to persons persecuted under repressive and discriminatory legislation in Namibia.

2. In resolution 44/27 K of 22 November 1989, the General Assembly, reaffirming that increased humanitarian and legal assistance by the international community to those persecuted under repressive and discriminatory legislation in South Africa is more than ever necessary to alleviate their plight and sustain their efforts; commended the Secretary-General and the Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa for their persistent efforts to promote humanitarian

and legal assistance to persons persecuted under repressive and discriminatory legislation in South Africa and Namibia, as well as assistance to their families and to refugees from South Africa; expressed its appreciation to the Governments, organizations and individuals that had contributed to the Trust Fund and to the voluntary agencies engaged in rendering humanitarian and legal assistance to the victims of apartheid and racial discrimination; and appealed for generous and increased contributions to the Trust Fund, as well as for direct contributions to the voluntary agencies engaged in rendering assistance to the victims of apartheid and racial discrimination in South Africa.

3. Since the last report of the Secretary-General of 5 October 1989 (A/44/556), the Trust Fund has received contributions from Governments totalling $3,376,876, as follows:

	(United States dollars)
Australia	48 490
Austria	50 000
Canada	33 764
Chile	5 000
China	30 000
Denmark	698 468
Finland	375 094
Germany, Federal Republic of	106 977
Greece	4 500
Iceland	2 100
India	2 000
Ireland	10 924
Jamaica	2 000
Kuwait	5 000
Morocco	2 475
New Zealand	11 510
Nigeria	2 000
Norway	667 678
Pakistan	3 000
Philippines	235
Republic of Korea	5 000
Sweden	817 661
Thailand	1 000
United States of America	492 000
	3 376 876

4. In addition, the following pledges are outstanding:

	(United States dollars)
Barbados	500
Egypt	532
France	116 071
Gabon	5 000
Luxembourg	14 535
Netherlands	132 979
United States of America	8 000
Venezuela	1 000
Yugoslavia	2 000
	280 617

5. The total income to the Trust Fund since its inception, including interest, is $40,617,461 and the total amount of grants is $39,121,560, including those approved on 21 September 1990.

6. In accordance with the decisions of the Committee of Trustees, four grants totalling $1,850,000 have been made from the Trust Fund in the period under review. Furthermore, on 21 September 1990 the Committee of Trustees extended two grants totalling $1,350,000.

7. The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit the report of the Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa on its work since the date of the last report (see annex).

ANNEX

Report of the Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa

1. The Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa is composed of the following members:

Mr. Jan K. Eliasson (Sweden), Chairman

Major-General Joseph N. Garba (Nigeria), Vice-Chairman a/

Mr. Pedro Daza (Chile) b/

Mr. Driss Slaoui (Morocco) c/

Mr. Nasim Ahmed (Pakistan) d/

2. Since the date of the last report (A/44/556), the Committee of Trustees decided on four grants from the Trust Fund during the reporting period and on two additional grants on 21 September 1990, for purposese within its terms of reference as laid down in General Assembly resolutions 2397 (XXIII) of 2 December 1968 and 2671 (XXV) of 8 December 1970, as follows:

Grant number	Date of decision	Amount (United States dollars)	Purpose e/
169	5 June 1990	1 000 000	(a) to (d)
170	5 June 1990	500 000	(a)
171	5 June 1990	200 000	(d)
172	5 June 1990	150 000	(a) and (b)
173	21 September 1990	1 000 000	(a) to (d)
174	21 September 1990	350 000	(a)

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a/ As from 22 January 1990, Major-General Joseph N. Garba was replaced by Professor Ibrahim Gambari.

b/ As from 15 March 1990, Mr. Pedro Daza was replaced by Mr. Juan O. Somavia.

c/ As from 18 June 1990, Mr. Driss Slaoui was replaced by Mr. Aziz Hasbi.

d/ Mr. Nasim Ahmed passed away on 21 July 1990. As from 7 September 1990, Mr. Jamsheed K. A. Marker became a member of the Committee of Trustees.

e/ As given in paragraph 1 of the present report.

3. In 1990, the Committee continued to encourage direct contributions to voluntary organizations engaged in providing assistance to the victims of apartheid and racial discrimination in South Africa and Namibia. It was informed that direct contributions were made to the International Defense and Aid Fund for Southern Africa by Australia, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Czechoslavakia, Denmark, the European Community, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, India, Ireland, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

4. During the period under review significant events took place inside and outside South Africa. In December 1989, the sixteenth special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted by consensus, for the first time in the history of the Organization, a Declaration on South Africa that provides the principles and guidelines for a negotiated settlement of the conflict in South Africa. The prospects for such a settlement improved following agreement between the Government and the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) on the Groote Schuur Minute (2-4 May 1990) and the Pretoria Minute (6 August 1990). The working group on the issue of political prisoners, detainees and refugees, which was established within the framework of the Groote Schuur Minute, has just issued its report which is annexed to the Pretoria Minute. The present report is central to the work of the Committee of Trustees which welcomes the broad agreement on the definition of political offences in the South African situation as well as the proposed measures for the phased release of political prisoners and detainees.

5. During the period under review the Committee welcomed the release of Nelson Mandela and some other political prisoners; the suspension of death penalties; the unbanning of 36 political organizations, including ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC); the repeal of certain emergency regulations and the non-renewal of the country-wide state of emergency, with the exception of the province of Natal.

6. In the same vein, the Committee duly noted that independent commissions of inquiry were appointed by the Government to investigate allegations of misconduct by the security forces. The Harms Commission is currently investigating accusations that the South African Defence Force (SADF) has been using death squads against opponents of apartheid within South Africa and outside. The Hiemstra Commission of Inquiry on its part is looking into allegations that the Johannesburg City Council has been running a spy network directed at opponents of apartheid.

7. On 1 September 1990, a commission headed by Justice R. J. Goldstone released its report which is very critical of the undisciplined and offensive manner in which the police handled unrest in Sebokeng in March 1990 and, more recntly, violence in townships east and west of Johannesburg, which left more than 500 dead and hundreds of others wounded. The Commission's report concludes that some officers who fired on an unthreatening crowd, "without an order to do so", should be referred to the Attorney-General for possible prosecution.

8. While noting the positive measures taken by the Government with a view to creating a climate conducive to negotiations, the Committee of Trustees is concerned that the pillars of apartheid and a vast array of discriminatory and

repressive laws, rules and regulations are still in place and continue to create havoc in the lives of the black majority of South Africa.

9. Of equal concern to the Committee is the increasing application of criminal proceedings to cases that are clearly of a political nature. Furthermore, in spite of the release of a number of political prisoners, many political trials are still in progress and political imprisonment continues. About 400 political trials were recorded by independent observers in 1989. The number of such trials is even higher in 1990.

10. The Committee of Trustees is concerned that there are a number of repressive and arbitrary laws still in force, which seriously curtail normal political activities as well as the freedom of expression and assembly of the majority of South Africans.

11. The Committee of Trustees also wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude to the Secretary-General for his encouragement and assistance, as well as to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and to voluntary organizations concerned for their continued co-operation.

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/551
9 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 87

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ECONOMIC REHABILITATION OF ANGOLA

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 44/168 of 15 December 1989 on international assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola, the General Assembly:

(a) Expressed its solidarity with and support for the efforts of Angola to lessen the adverse effects caused by the acts of aggression and destabilization and to cope with the economic and social problems;

(b) Appealed to the international community to render the substantial financial, material and technical assistance, which is necessary for the economic rehabilitation of Angola;

(c) Requested the Secretary-General to enter into consultation with the Government of Angola for the purpose of determining the level of assistance required by Angola and to report to Member States and the relevant United Nations agencies on the results of those consultations;

(d) Requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session of the implementation of the resolution.

2. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of that resolution, the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship held consultations with the President of Angola at Windhoek on 21 March 1990, held discussions with the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations in New York, and visited Angola from 11 to 15 August 1990.

3. The action taken by the organizations of the United Nations system in response to paragraph 3 of resolution 44/168 are described in the present report. Information is also provided on the action taken by the international community in response to the appeal contained in paragraph 2 of the resolution.

4. It should be noted that, in addition to the economic rehabilitation assistance called for in resolution 44/168, in April 1990, the Government of Angola requested the Secretary-General to appeal for emergency humanitarian assistance for the population of the drought-stricken provinces of southern Angola. That request led to an appeal to donor Governments by the Secretary-General, which was supported by a document.

II. ECONOMIC REHABILITATION OF ANGOLA

5. The initial approach to the question of the economic rehabilitation of Angola was defined at a meeting held at Abidjan on 28 and 29 November 1989, at which representatives of the Government of Angola, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) participated. The meeting made preparations for a donors' conference which, it was foreseen, would be convened in order to seek support for a three-year transitional plan for Angola, and established a list of studies to be carried out. The meeting also concluded

that UNDP and AfDB would join efforts in preparing and co-funding the donors' conference under a project executed by UNDP with which AfDB would be closely associated. Since the Government had concluded by then that it would return to a longer planning cycle, following the two-year economic recuperation plan of 1989-1990, assistance was requested from UNDP for the preparation of a future planning framework, through a project financed by the indicative planning figure (IPF) and executed by the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.

6. It is expected that the first draft of the planning framework, taking into account the current emergency situation, will be ready by December 1990. A background study, financed by UNDP, has been provided by the World Bank in the form of a detailed introductory economic review. At the same time, a new project executed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is providing further inputs in the area of financial management.

7. Later, AfDB adopted a new way of thinking and elaborated an institutional support project for the Ministry of Planning in order to contribute to the preparation of the donors' conference. That project was approved by the Executive Board of AfDB in March 1990.

III. ASSISTANCE BY ORGANS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

8. Subsequent to the Abidjan meeting, the Angolan Government felt that the institutional support project proposed by AfDB might not be the optimal way of preparing for a donors' conference, taking into account the anticipated delays in putting in place the input required for the preparation of the studies. In a letter dated 4 April 1990, the Angolan Vice-Minister for Planning requested UNDP to assist with the preparation of a donors' round table to be held early in 1991.

9. UNDP responded positively to the request, indicating that preparations for the round table could be financed by IPF, while certain expenses not covered by IPF could be charged to the Netherlands Trust Fund.

10. Specifically, UNDP proposed to the Government of Angola the following approach:

(a) Expansion of the existing project for macro-economic planning which, in addition to providing assistance for the elaboration of a planning framework, would also prepare background documentation for the public and private investment programmes;

(b) A complementary project, also to be executed by the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, which would cover preparations for the donors' round table.

11. The Government of Angola asked UNDP to give consideration to the question of how AfDB, which had made considerable preparations for the original envisaged donors' conference, might now be associated with the round table and how the Government of Portugal, which had expressed the wish to provide aid through

Portuguese consultants, might also be involved. It was subsequently agreed that AfDB would continue to prepare the various sectoral studies that had been agreed upon and it was expected that the World Bank would continue to produce its contribution, as planned. Thus, it was expected that all the studies and other material being prepared originally for the donors' conference, and now for the round table, would be produced as planned. However, it was felt that the proposed timing of early 1991 was no longer practical and that the round table should take place at a later date.

12. For its part, the Government of Angola remained committed to its economic and financial reform programme (Saneamento Economico e Financeiro) announced in 1987 and initiated in 1988. During that year, the Government enacted six basic laws on foreign exchange, economic activities, state enterprises, planning, foreign investment, and treasury bonds; however, in some cases, decrees for the implementation of the laws still remained to be issued. Early in 1989, and within the context of the reform programme, the Government announced the two-year economic recuperation plan (Plano de Recuperação Economica) for 1989-1990.

13. Although progress in the implementation of the economic and financial reform programme was visible in areas such as institutional reforms and price liberalization, particularly in agriculture, reforms in areas such as foreign exchange, monetary policy and salaries remained to be implemented. In a recent statement, the Politburo of the governing MPLA-PT party concluded that the overall balance of the implementation of the programme was unsatisfactory as a result, in part, of the aggravation of the war situation. At this point, management of the economy nominated new ministers of planning and finance and a new head of the National Bank of Angola.

14. During the Abidjan meeting, the idea of preparing two scenarios for the donors' conference - one based on present conditions, and the other on conditions of peace - was rejected, but no clear choice between the two was made.

15. Since the decision to hold a round table instead of a donors' conference was made, the Vice-Minister of Planning, as the designated Secretary-General for the round table, has been working with AfDB and the Government of Portugal.

16. On 25 June 1990, the Vice-Minister of Planning presided over a meeting held at Luanda, in which representatives of AfDB, the Government of Portugal and UNDP participated. The following conclusions were agreed upon by all participants:

(a) UNDP would assume the leading role in the preparation of the round table;

(b) The project financed by UNDP and executed by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development would be revised to include, in addition to the preparation of the macro-economic framework, the public investment plan and private sector strategy to be presented at the round table;

(c) A complementary project would be formulated to cover preparations for the round table and logistical requirements for it;

(d) UNDP would transmit the revised project documents to the Government of Angola for circulation to AfDB, the World Bank and the Government of Portugal. Additional inputs might be sought from AfDB, the Government of Portugal and eventually the World Bank, in order to ensure thorough preparation for the round table.

17. The question of whether a transitional or definitive plan should be presented at the round-table meeting remains open. Regardless of the decision that may ultimately be taken, it has been assumed that the definition of rehabilitation is essentially infrastructural projects with expected major impact in the short term, and not ongoing projects for training or institutional support to sectoral ministries, nor emergency food and related aid for drought relief and other situations of humanitarian need. This definition has been followed in the preparation of the present report.

18. UNDP conducted a mid-term review of its country programme for Angola from 11 to 22 February 1990. The second country programme, covering the period 1987-1991 (i.e. UNDP's fourth cycle), had been approved by the UNDP Governing Council in April 1987 with an IPF of $22,825,000, to which UNDP added a third cycle IPF balance of $1,684,000. Therefore, together with additional UNDP-administered and other funds of $3,543,000, the total was $28,052,000.

19. The country programme had four central objectives, to which had been allocated in February 1990, in terms of approved project budgets, the following shares of IPF resources:

(a) Effective economic management and resource mobilization for reconstruction and development: 28 per cent;

(b) Reactivation and promotion of food and export crop production by the small holder sector: 29 per cent;

(c) Physical rehabilitation of industrial plant combined with improved management systems: 27 per cent;

(d) Universal basic education and training for managerial, administrative and technical functions: 16 per cent.

20. About one third of the initial allocation programmed for objective (a), effective economic management and resource mobilization for reconstruction and development, was committed to alleviating the results of the armed conflict in the south, through the "southern reconstruction" project, and generally in the country through a project entitled "Logistical Support to the Emergency". The next 40 per cent was programmed for the development of basic data through two projects - "National Accounts" and "National Statistics"; and to legislation through two projects - "Investment Legislation and Fiscal/Customs Reform" and "Mineral Legislation and Investment Support". The remainder was allocated to basic studies. Subsequent expansion of the programme included a second phase of the "Southern Reconstruction Programme", and furthered logistical support through a project, specifically for the war displaced.

21. The southern reconstruction project is assisting the Government of Angola in the creation of effective regional planning structures and policies at the central and local levels, and is also providing assistance in the co-ordination and monitoring of donor activities.

22. At the regional level, the project is contributing to the establishment of a functional planning structure and human resource base in the four provinces of Huila, Cunene, Namibe and Kuando Kubango. The main objective is the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a regional investment and socio-economic development programme, as well as the co-ordination of sectoral activities in the region.

23. With regard to objective (c), physical rehabilitation of industrial plant combined with improved management systems, the programme was centred on two projects, "Industrial Maintenance and Repair Centre", extended to a subsequent phase valued at $2.4 million, and one begun in 1988, to rehabilitate a wheat flour mill and yeast plant in Luanda, which will supply inputs for a network of industrial-scale bakeries in various parts of the country. The latter project has a total value of $3.7 million, expected to be disbursed by the end of 1991. A third project, "Scrap Processing" was operationally completed early in the programme cycle. Finally, assistance is being provided to strengthen the Ministry of Industry's capacity to evaluate projects and prepare diagnostic studies.

24. The World Bank has indicated the possibility of loans/credits to Angola for a number of projects in priority areas identified in the UNDP/World Bank Economic Review. It is expected that in 1991 the implementation of the Lobito-Benguela urban rehabilitation project will begin as the first $16 million phase of a project totalling $38 million, with water supply, sewerage, solid waste, storm drainage, housing, sanitation, geographic information/project management and institutional development components.

25. The World Bank also plans to finance a social sector rehabilitation project in the provinces of Huila, Cunene and Namibe, using all or part of the eighth replenishment of the International Development Association (1988/90) for Angola of $80 million. Because of the dramatic urban growth that has taken place in the capital city of Luanda, the population of which today exceeds 1.5 million and may reach 2 million inhabitants by the end of the decade, the Government has requested that attention be given to rehabilitation there. As a result, the World Bank has agreed to fund, together with other agencies, an urban rehabilitation plan with two main components - a short-term diagnostic and action plan and a long-term urban development scheme - which together cost $2.6 million for Luanda.

IV. ASSISTANCE BY OTHER DONORS

26. The United Nations resident co-ordinator in Angola has been informed of the following commitments made since December 1989 for disbursement in 1990:

	Millions of United States dollars
(a) France	
Long-term loans through the Caisse Central for power-generating plants in Namibe and Lobito	13.4
Water pipeline network in Luanda (first phase)	12.5
Agricultural inputs in Huila province	12.1
Electrical distribution network, Luanda	11.4
Rehabilitation of coffee research stations	8.9
Industrial credit line, Benguela province	6.6
Water treatment in Luanda	5.2
Cotton production in Porto Amboim	5.1
Transport (Manauto 7 - Renault trucks)	3.6
Studies on electrical distribution in Luanda satellite telecommunications system and textile factory in Benguela	4.5
(b) Italy	
Construction of Josina Machel Public Health Institute	not announced
(c) Netherlands	
Truck and mobile crane assembly	1.0
Rehabilitation of sea vessels	0.1

	Millions of United States dollars
(d) Spain	
Ophthalmology centre and other medical facilities	1.8
Agricultural experimental farm at Funda, Luanda	1.5
(e) Sweden	
Import support programme (spare parts, etc.)	13.8
Telecommunications in Luanda	2.3
Electricity supply in Luanda	1.0
Gas turbine rehabilitation	0.1
Vehicle rehabilitation	0.1
(f) African Development Bank	
Building of higher education establishments	not announced
(g) European Economic Community	
(Lomé III - European Development Fund Commission Budget, and European Investment Bank)	
Road repair Namibe-Lubango-Matala	22.3
Sanitation in Luanda	19.7
Rehabilitation of Americo Boavida Hospital in Luanda	circa 10.0
Agricultural training institute in Huila	1.0
Cold store complex equipment in Namibe	0.6
Lobito-Benguela rehabilitation study	1.3
Sectoral import programme	4.6
"Action Concertee" - health and other support to displaced people (through non-governmental organizations)	10.5

	Millions of United States dollars
(h) Non-governmental organizations	
(i) Development Workshop (Canada)	
School rehabilitation and improvement of water supply in Luanda	0.4
(ii) ADPP (People to People's Development Aid-Denmark)	
Rehabilitation school in Bengo	0.2

27. Thus, the total estimated rehabilitation assistance announced so far by other donors for disbursement in 1990 amounts to approximately $US 175 million.

28. The sectoral import programmes are seen by donors as an important contribution to rehabilitation initiatives, in that they reinforce projects through the import of equipment, raw materials and spare parts for health, education, agriculture, energy, transportation and industry.

29. The disbursements reported above are by donors for year 1990 against projects reportedly in progress. It should be noted that there have been no new pledges as such, since there have been no donor conferences since the Lobito-Benguela corridor rehabilitation conference held in January 1989. However, assistance now on the drawing boards which is expected to begin in 1991 is as follows:

	Millions of United States dollars
(a) Italy	
Construction of infant creches at Viana near Luanda	2.8
Rehabilitation of fish by-products factory at Namibe	5.7
Water pipelines in Porto Amboim and Baia Farta	7.3
Microwave telecommunications system in northern region	0.5
(b) Sweden	
Electricity distribution in Luanda	4.8

	Millions of United States dollars
Continuation of telecommunications assistance	3.4
Gas turbines - Huambo, Cabinda, Luanda	2.0
Water and sewerage infrastructure at Lobito Port (with Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD))	1.7
Namibia-Angola road rehabilitation in the context of Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC)	not announced
Urban rehabilitation Lobito/Benguela	0.6
Vehicle rehabilitation	0.6
(c) European Economic Communities	
Completion of road repairs Namibe-Matala	59.0
Integrated rural development support	circa 20.0
Completion of Americo Boavida hospital	19.7
Phase II of Sanitation project in Luanda	19.7
Rehabilitation of maternity hospital in Luanda	13.1
Rehabilitation agricultural training institute at Chivinguiro, Huila province	13.1
Municipal hospital, Cazenga	10.5
Lobito Benguela axis, five transnational projects (awaiting outcome of World Bank study)	circa 10.0
"Action Concertee"	circa 10.0
Water supply in Tombwa (Namibe province)	10.0
Three health centres in Luanda	2.6
(d) Spain	
Agricultural experimental farm, Funda	0.8
Completion of ophthalmology centre	0.5

	Millions of United States dollars
(e) African Development Bank	
Satellite telecommunications - domestic and external	circa 5.0
(f) Other loans	
Grants and long-term loans yet to be announced	

30. From the above donor information, it is possible now to set out an approximate summary of rehabilitation assistance for the years 1990 and 1991, although figures are tentative and actual disbursement will depend on the commitments finally made by the World Bank, the evolution of the peace process, and the prevailing constraints to the implementation of projects. Very little information has been provided by donors outside the United Nations system regarding their plans for assistance to Angola for the year 1992 onwards:

Planned disbursement:	Millions of United States dollars	
	1990	1991
United Nations system (including World Bank)	4	17
Other donors	175	223
Total	179	240

V. ASSESSMENT AND OTHER MISSIONS

31. The most important missions are those of the World Bank, whose projects are still in the study phase, both at the macro and sectoral levels. They are sequels to an introductory economic review, which was finalized in 1989. Five studies are being done, namely, (a) the Luanda to Malanje rail corridor, (b) the Namibe Port to Matala corridor, (c) the Lobito to Benguela corridor, scaled down from a larger study for a corridor to Zambia, (d) the Angolan national highway network, and (e) the national power subsector, for which a funding report is expected in March 1991 with an investment proposal for World Bank funding also to be finalized in 1991. Other World Bank sectoral studies are in the agricultural and social sectors.

32. The Government of Spain is studying the rehabilitation of the electrical distribution system in Luanda; the Government of Sweden is preparing a transport and communications pilot study, while the European Economic Community is studying transport and port rehabilitation in the Lobito-Benguela corridor.

33. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) has been requested by the Government of Angola to prepare an urban sector study of housing in Luanda, and to assist in the formulation of housing policies, and public administration management strategies for Luanda and Lubango.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

34. The total commitment of around $US 419 million reported in sections II and III above, contains a high proportion of ongoing assistance and commitments rescheduled from previous years. It is evident that donors are hesitant to begin implementation of new projects for which funding is available. In many cases detailed subsectoral or individual feasibility studies are seen as the logical next step, together with the formulation of overall strategy for emergency assistance, rehabilitation and development. It is also important to note that information from donors indicates little commitment to the southern reconstruction programme, which has been seen by Government as the first component in a national plan.